

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP82-00457R002300650012-6

INFORM CONFIDENTIAL

CD NO.

COUNTRY Colombia

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 15 Feb 1949

SUBJECT PCO Efforts to Effect Reconciliation with PCC

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

25X1A6a

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1A2g

DATE OF IN

25X1X6

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1A

1. In spite of the fact that the Partido Comunista Obrero (PCO - Communist Workers' Party) had concluded that no possible agreement on unification could be reached with the Partido Comunista de Colombia (PCC - Communist Party of Colombia), efforts to effect such a coalition are still being carried on by the leaders of the PCO.
2. Augusto Duran Ospino, Secretary General of the PCO, advised the Directorate of his Party that during a trip to the Caribbean coast of Colombia he discussed with various leaders of the PCC the possibility of effecting a union of the two parties. Among these was Ventura Fuentes Vanegas, an advisory member of the Central Executive Committee of the PCC and an important labor leader. Fuentes Vanegas was extremely sympathetic toward the idea of reconciliation and stated that he was not in accord with the tactics being used by the PCC to discredit the PCO. He further stated that he would work to bring about some form of reconciliation between the two groups.
3. Duran Ospino believes that he convinced Fuentes Vanegas that the split between the two Communist groups has severely affected the strength of both parties. He stated that in 1945 the Communist Party had an enrollment of 15,000 members and some 10,000 sympathizers. At the present time, the two groups combined have approximately 2,500 paying members and about 4,500 sympathizers.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 10 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

Document No.

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Date: 16 MAY 1996

By: 0246

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